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Our Lady's Garden

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FROM
MARY'S GARDENS
124 WEST CHESTNUT HILL AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA 18, PENNSYLVANIA

Our Lady's Garden

OUR LADY'S GARDEN is first of all the package you receive from the postman. This "Garden" is an appeal to the heart. May it bloom within you spiritually as you open it and study it. Then may you be inspired to sow and tend the seeds so they will bring forth foliage, buds and blossoms in due season, according to God's established order.

The flowers in Our Lady's Garden are called by their religious names from medieval times when they were seen as reminders of Mary, her life and her mysteries. While growing these "Flowers of Our Lady" you will discover the very shapes and colors which originally suggested their names to the devout. Seen thus, the flowers will become religious signs and symbols, as of old, turning your thoughts and prayers to Mary as you tend them or walk in the garden.

The "Mary-names" of the flowers in Our Lady's Garden are taken from old garden dictionaries. The accompanying meditations are according to the spirit of *Flowers of Mary,* by Rev. Louis Geminger (1894).

Ten Flowers of Our Lady

Mary's Rose Wild Sweet William *Silene armeria* **Medium: 18″ to 24″.** **Small bright pink or rose flowers in June and July.**	In beholding the red color of this flower, recall that Mary is the beautiful Mystical Rose in God's garden of souls, whom He created and blessed to be the mother of His Divine Son, Savior of the world. Pray to Mary that your soul, too, may bud forth as the rose, praising God.
Our Lady's Earrings Ladyslipper *Impatiens balsaminum* **Medium: 12″ to 24″.** **Red, rose, pink, purple, white flowers in July and August.**	Grow these flower earrings as fitting adornments for the ears of the most pure Virgin who listened so humbly and attentively to the angel of the Annunciation. See them also as dainty slippers for Mary, whose steps were most beauteous in loving service of God.
Our Lady's Pincushion Sweet Scabious *Scabiosa atropurpurea* **Tall: 24″ to 36″.** **Dark purple, rose or lavender flowers from August to frost.**	As you look at the tiny white pins in their colored cushions, think of Our Lady's wonder and joy as she sewed garments for the Divine Redeemer she was to bear. Like Mary, offer all your work and thoughts to God.
Mary's Tears Job's Tears *Coix lachryma* **Tall: 24″ to 48″.** **Hard, shiny gray or black seeds from August to frost.**	When the tear-like seeds appear, unite your thoughts with those of Mary as she wept at the foot of the Cross, sharing interiorly the bitter Passion of her crucified Son and Lord. Save the seeds to make your own rosary beads for meditation on Our Lady's life and mysteries all year round.
Mary's Gold Dwarf single Marigold *Tagetes patula* **Medium: 12″ to 18″.** **Golden yellow flowers from July to frost.**	See how beautifully the golden masses of flowers suggest Our Lady's splendor after her glorious assumption into heaven as the "Woman clothed with the sun," the "Queen in gilded clothing." Ask her to pray that you may be made worthy of the promise of heaven.
Mary's Crown Corn Flower *Centauria cyanis* **Tall: 24″ to 30″.** **Blue, red, pink or white flowers in July and August.**	Join with Christians through the centuries who have seen these tooth-edged flowers as reminders of the crown of Our Lady, Queen of heaven and earth. Join with them also in venerating Mary by preparing flower crowns for the adornment of her statues.
Our Lady's Mantle Morning Glory *Ipomoea purpurea* **Climbing: to 8′.** **Sky blue flowers from August to frost.**	Raise your thoughts from the blue of Our Lady's Mantle to the spiritual mantle with which Mary, Mother of the all-powerful God, and our heavenly mother also, mercifully protects those who turn to her for help. Beseech her protection from all dangers.
Our Lady's Praise Petunia *Petunia hybrida* **Low: 12″.** **Red, blue or white flowers from July to September.**	Watch these blooms open in praise of Our Lady around her statue or shrine. Offer your garden work, likewise, in praise of Our Blessed Lady, Mother and helper of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the redemption of the world.
Mary's Flower Sweet Alyssum *Alyssum maritima* **Low: 8″.** **Cushions of tiny white flowers from July to September.**	While tending Mary's Flower, recall the devotion with which Christians in times past dedicated certain flowers especially to Mary. Dedicate your life to Mary as a spiritual bouquet of works and prayers for God and neighbor and all mankind.
Our Lady's Delight Pansy; Trinity Flower *Viola tricolor* **Low: 6″.** **Mixed yellow, blue and white flowers in June and July.**	Like Mary, take delight in flowers as God's riches and artistry, showing forth the beauty of heaven on earth. Take heart that with Our Lady's merciful intercession you will see God's beauty face to face in heaven.

ALL TEN FLOWERS OF OUR LADY are rapidly growing flowers which sprout in one to two weeks after sowing seed, and bloom after ten to thirteen weeks. Sow each kind of seed in small rows or holes made in the soil to a depth of two to four times the thickness of the seed. Cover with loose soil and press firm. Keep moist, but not flooded.

Sow outdoors in the garden where wanted in spring, after the leaves have started to bud on trees. Or sow up to six weeks earlier indoors in 2″ deep containers of soil material on a warm windowsill; then move the containers outdoors after all danger of frost is past and transplant the seedlings to the garden. Carefully loosen the soil around the sides of each seedling before lifting it from its container, to avoid breaking its delicate roots. Transplant during cloudy weather, or shade from direct sunlight with bags or boxes for several days after transplanting.

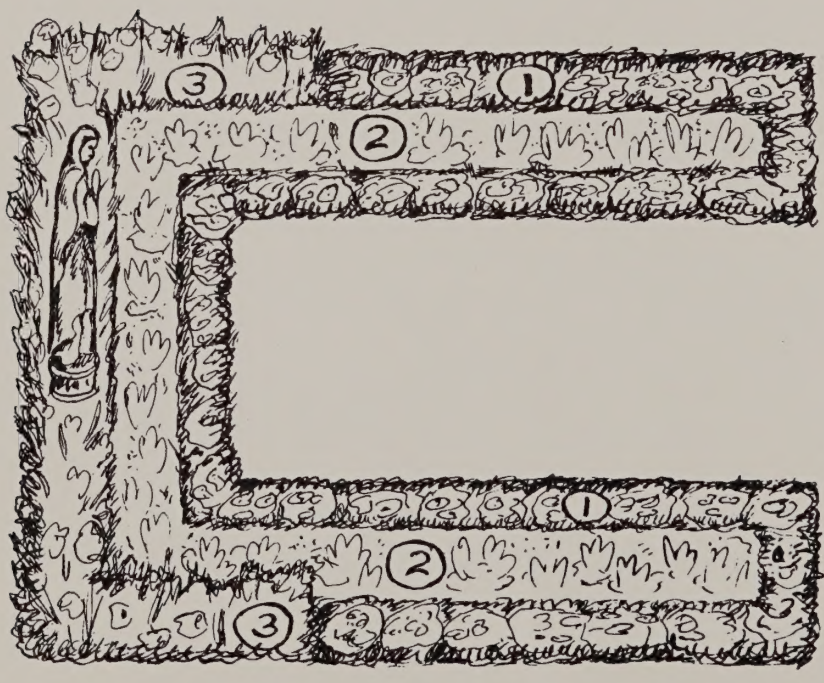
Our Lady's Garden Next Spring

IF YOU WISH to have earlier blooms in Our Lady's Garden next year, write to the Mary's Gardens address on the cover of this leaflet. Ask for lists of perennial bulbs for fall planting, and plants for fall or early spring planting, which will give spring and early summer bloom year after year. The ten annual flowers described in these pages must be started again from seed each spring, for mid-summer bloom.

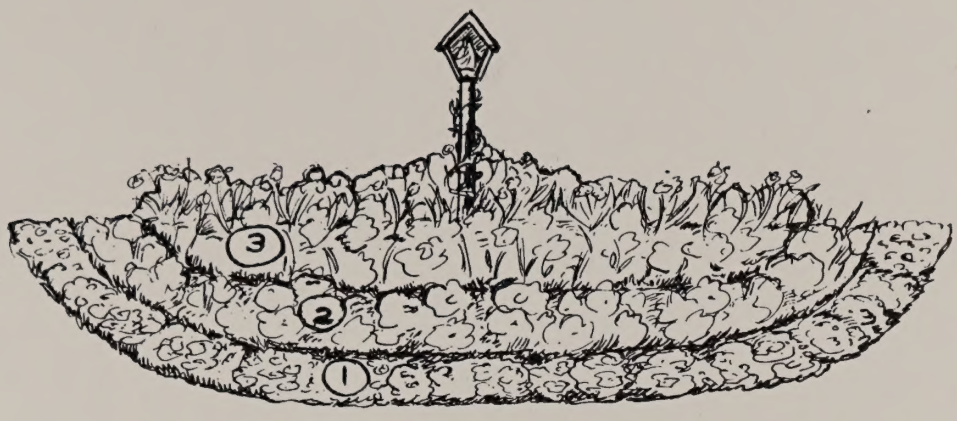
Additional "Our Lady's Garden" packages containing this leaflet and its ten seed packets may be obtained from Mary's Gardens for $1.00 each, postpaid. A gift card will be enclosed upon request. Also available from Mary's Gardens are literature and color slide lecture kits on the medieval Flowers of Our Lady and Mary Gardens. Write for further information.

"This is thy stewardship . . . whatsoever thou be, and if thou carelessly omit to do thy office . . . thou makest a hard account for thyselfe, which God forbid, if it be His good pleasure . . . and therefore love God above all things and thy neighbor as thyselfe."

So concludes an early sixteenth century English gardening pamphlet.



Terrace Mary Garden



Border Mary Garden

MAKE OUR LADY'S GARDEN a setting for Mary's statue or shrine. Start it in a sunny border next to a wall or fence; locate it on a terrace; or design an enclosed garden with a path.

After selecting the site for the garden, make a drawing or sketch showing where you will grow the various Flowers of Our Lady. Place low-growing plants next to the border or path ①; medium plants towards the centers of the beds ②; and tall plants near the rear ③. Locate several plants of each kind together in groups, for proportion. Provide a trellis for Our Lady's Mantle vine to climb.

Sow your seeds or plant your seedlings according to your plan; giving them loving care. As they mature and bloom, rejoice that God's artistry and yours have been united in praise of Our Blessed Lady, the "Flower of flowers".

Enclosed Mary Garden